

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of MELISSA NICOLE CREER and
JAMES MICHAEL CREER, Minors.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

SHARON LOUISE VITRO, f/k/a SHARON
LOUISE CREER,

Respondent-Appellant.

UNPUBLISHED

April 27, 2006

No. 267508

Saginaw Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 01-027031-NA

Before: White, P.J., and Fitzgerald and Talbot, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent appeals as of right from the order terminating her parental rights to the minor children pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that the grounds for termination were established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 3.977(J); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989).

The evidence established that respondent's limited cognitive abilities related to her mild mental retardation rendered her incapable of independently caring for her children. Respondent did not acknowledge her children's emotional needs related to the sexual abuse suffered at the hands of their father, she was not recognized as an authoritative figure in the home, and the family environment was completely dysfunctional. Respondent relied upon her ten-year-old daughter for financial guidance, educational needs related to a sibling, and interpreting directions to appointments. Respondent had so lost control over the home that conditions escalated to the point that her son had physically abused her. The children regressed while in her custody and improved when returned to foster care. Accordingly, the trial court did not err in terminating respondent's parental rights.

Affirmed.

/s/ Helene N. White
/s/ E. Thomas Fitzgerald
/s/ Michael J. Talbot